

## CLAIMS

1. Method of determining the oxygen demand, TOD or COD, of an aqueous  
5 solution, in particular of waste water, in particular for a purification process,  
wherein a sample of the aqueous solution is decomposed by combustion,  
characterized in that  
the combustion is carried out without the presence of a catalyst, at a  
temperature above 1150°C, in particular at 1200°C.
- 10 2. Method according to Claim 1,  
characterized by implementation of the method in an elongated and  
substantially vertically oriented reaction chamber, to the upper region of  
which the aqueous solution is conducted.
- 15 3. Method according to Claim 1 or 2,  
characterized in that the combustion is carried out in a substantially  
vertically disposed reaction chamber and salts contained in the sample are  
removed at the lower end thereof.